
CURRENT LICENSING ISSUES IN PSYCHOLOGY

Washington State Examining Board of Psychology

Summer 1998

Board Chair's Column

-Diane Fligstein

The first half of this year has been busy and demanding for the Washington State Examining Board of Psychology. Last year, the Department of Health made known new procedures for adopting rules in accordance with regulatory reform guidelines and Governor Locke's Executive Order on Regulatory Improvement. As a result of these new guidelines, and in response to the perceived need for rule changes in order to protect the public, the Examining Board of Psychology began a series of work group meetings to consider changes or additional rules in the areas of educational requirements, and child custody evaluations. Initial dates for these workgroup meetings are on page 3 of this newsletter. You are encouraged to attend or present your input in written form.

The Board has also begun to incorporate the recommendations of the Adjudicative Process Project into its procedures. The aim of this project is to establish consistency among boards in the processing of complaints against all health profession license holders, to streamline the

disciplinary process, and to decrease the time involved in the processing of complaints. Please see the related article on page 4 of this newsletter for more detailed information.

After 19 years of working with disciplinary boards in the health professions, Dee Spice is planning to retire in August. We want to thank her for her input and guidance to this board. Her breadth of knowledge and commitment to the profession of psychology will be missed. In addition, I would like to thank Mark Soelling, Ph.D., outgoing Board Chair, for the leadership he provided to the Board during his tenure as Chair.

Finally, several people have recently joined the Board and its staff. Governor Locke recently appointed two psychologists to the Board —Joanne Ito, Ph.D., from Tacoma, and Glen Frese, Ph.D., from Wenatchee. Sharon Strachan has recently been added to the staff to replace a former Administrative Assistant who is on sick leave. We feel fortunate to have them and welcome them to the Board. ♦

In this issue

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 2 Deatheridge Follow-up | 3 Public Input Needed |
| 2 Recent Board Activities | 3 Complaint Results |
| 2 Volunteers Needed For Pro Tem Oral Examiners | 4 Examination Results |
| 2 New Board Members | 4 Adjudicative Process Project Update |
| 3 The ASPPB Certificate of Professional Psychology | 5 Address Change Form |
| | 7 1998 Board Dates |
| | 7 Newly Licensed Psychologists |

Deatheridge Follow-up

As was reported in the last newsletter, the Washington Supreme Court recently overturned the Court of Appeals in the Deatheridge case. As a result, a psychologist who has been retained as an expert in litigation may not rely on testimonial immunity to avoid possible disciplinary action for malpractice or incompetence in performing his or her expert services.

Because the Court of Appeals had ruled that retained experts could not be disciplined for their testimony or their work leading up to their testimony, the Board did not consider complaints based on alleged errors made by psychologists while performing expert services. Now that the Supreme Court has reversed the Court of Appeals, all cases which we had declined to consider are now being re-examined. ♦

Recent Board Activities

The Board has adopted a policy establishing minimum standards for supervisors and treatment providers when supervision and/or treatment has been required as a condition of either informal disposition of a complaint, or as a part of discipline. Psychologists who wish to be considered for participation as supervisors or treatment providers for other psychologists who have been required to obtain supervision or treatment may contact

Janice K Boden, Program Manager, to indicate their availability and request a copy of the policy.

A new Board committee is presently reviewing the oral examination procedure to identify any areas of possible improvement. Psychologists who have suggestions regarding the oral examination are encouraged to write the Board with their ideas and comments. ♦

Volunteers Needed For Pro Tem Oral Examiners

The number of applicants for licensure who are ready to take the oral examination routinely exceeds the capacity of the Board to administer the exam. To assure that only qualified applicants are licensed, it is necessary to rely on volunteers from the profession to participate in administering the oral exam. Psychologists who

volunteer to be pro tem Board members to administer the oral exams perform a valuable service to the profession and to the citizens of Washington.

If you are willing to help the Board by offering a day or two of your time to serve as an examiner, please call or write to Janice K Boden, Program Manager. ♦

New Board Members

Glen Frese, Psy.D.

Dr. Glen Frese received his doctorate in 1983 from the Oregon Graduate School of Professional Psychology. He is presently in private practice in Wenatchee. His practice covers a wide range of services as is common in a semi-rural setting. Three years ago he received a spinal cord injury at T2 while bike riding on a local park trail with his wife and daughter. His life and his practice of psychology have been significantly influenced by the experience of being paralyzed.

Joanne Ito, Ph.D.

Dr. Joanne Ito earned her Ph.D. in clinical psychology in 1986 at the University of Washington. She received postdoctoral training at the University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston. Since 1989 she has been a Staff Psychologist at Western State Hospital in Tacoma, and a Clinical Instructor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Science at the University of Washington School of Medicine. ♦

The ASPPB Certificate of Professional Psychology

The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) has recently developed a program for granting applicants a "Certificate of Professional Qualification," or "CPQ".

The ASPPB hopes that state licensing boards will adopt the CPQ, for two reasons: First, the CPQ would facilitate mobility from state to state, because once a psychologist is granted a CPQ, it would be unnecessary to re-qualify for licensure if the psychologist relocated in a different state.

Second, the CPQ would relieve the state licensing board of the burden of having to examine the credentials and test the knowledge of applicants, because the ASPPB will perform this function.

The ASPPB program may have merit. However, the Board has been advised that it could not adopt the CPQ in lieu of conducting its own appraisal of applicants of licensure unless the Washington legislature makes the necessary statutory changes to the relevant laws governing licensure (see RCW 18.83.050). ❖

Public Input Needed

Several changes and or additions to the statutes and rules governing psychologists have been proposed by the Board. Briefly, the proposed changes are as follows:

1. It has been proposed that the educational and experience requirements for licensure (WAC 246-924-040 and WAC 246-924-060) be changed. Suggested changes include adding course requirements, and increasing practicum hours. Initial workgroup meetings will be held in Seattle on October 22, 1998 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the SeaTac Holiday Inn, 17338 International Boulevard; and in Spokane on September 14, 1998 beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Spokane International Airport Ramada Inn.
2. At present, continuing educational credits are given to board members for their service on the Board (WAC 246-

924-250). It has been proposed that this practice be discontinued.

3. It has been proposed that the Board promulgate a rule which establishes the minimum standards for a professionally competent child custody evaluation. Initial workgroup meetings will be held in Seattle on September 17, 1998 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the SeaTac Holiday Inn, 17338 International Boulevard; and in Spokane on October 15, 1998 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Cavanaugh's Inn at the Park, West 303 North River Drive.

The Board invites comment from all members of the profession and from all members of the public generally on each of the proposed changes, and/or additions. After public input has been received, the Board will then be in a position to evaluate each proposal for possible implementation. ❖

Complaint Results

Complaint Type	1997 Complaints		1998 Complaints	
	Received	Resolved	Received	Resolved
Sexual contact with patient/client	3	2	5	0
Dishonesty	1	1	0	0
Unprofessional conduct	11	11	10	2
Fraudulent billing or dispute	3	3	3	1
Standard of care	19	16	4	3
Fraudulent reports/testing	9	9	0	0
Practice w/expired license	1	1	0	0
Failure to cooperate	4	4	1	1
Total	51	47	23	7 ❖

Examination Results

Oral Examination Results

	Jan. 1997	Mar. 1997	July 1997	Jan. 1998
Total Number Tested	70	20	30	40
First Time Takers	64	16	27	34
Passed	53	14	19	27
Failed	11	2	8	7
Retakes	6	4	3	6
Passed	2	3	2	6
Failed	4	1	1	0

Written Examination Results

	Apr. 1997	Oct. 1997	Apr. 1998
Total Number Tested	29	29	39
First Time Takers	25	20	34
Passed	17	17	33
Failed	8	3	1
Retakes	4	9	5
Passed	2	6	4
Failed	2	3	1 ♦

Adjudicative Process Project Update

*Margaret Gilbert,
Staff Attorney and
Adjudicative Process
Project Lead*

The Department of Health has a legislative mandate to adopt rules setting time periods for completion of significant steps in resolving complaints against licensed health care professionals, including psychologists. That mandate was added to the Uniform Disciplinary Act by amendment of RCW 18.130.095 in 1995. That section also contains mandates for consistency in the ways complaints are handled by the different disciplining authorities, including the Examining Board of Psychology (the "Board"). These mandates resulted in the Department's "Adjudicative Process Project."

In order to fulfill the mandate, the Department spent almost three years gathering data and seeking informal input through workgroups and surveys. The Examining Board of Psychology provided input and Dr. Soelling, former chairperson of the Board, participated in one of the workgroups. After studying the information gathered, a comprehensive report and preliminary recommendations were issued this spring. The report and recommendations were sent to over 350 interested persons, including all members of the Board. Comment received resulted in

further adjustment of the recommendations.

The recommendations are for rules establishing base periods for each of the essential stages of the process: initial assessment, investigation, case disposition action, and adjudication. In addition to the base period, extensions would be available in certain defined circumstances. There would be process changes within the Department to assure being able to adequately track complaints and meet the time periods.

The next stages of the project are actual rule writing. During June and July there will be three public sessions in which interested persons may participate. These sessions will use the information accumulated and the recommendations to consider what should be included in rules and how those rules should be written for clarity. Draft rules are slated to be ready for review by the Board and by the public in the fall.

Persons interested in reviewing the recommendations or participating in rule writing sessions may be placed on a mailing list by providing name and address to the project at (360) 664-3066. ♦

To ensure receipt of your annual renewal notice and other timely information, please keep the Washington State Examining Board of Psychology informed of any change in your address.

Address Change Form

(Please type or print in ink)

License # _____

Name _____

Old Address _____

New Address _____

Effective Date _____ Signature _____

A licensee's address is not open to public disclosure except under circumstances defined in law, RCW 42.17. The address the Board has on file for you is used for all mailings, renewal notification and public disclosure.

Send completed form to the Board office by folding, stapling and placing postage on the reverse side of this page, which is pre-addressed, or by sending to:

EXAMINING BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
1300 QUINCE ST SE
P.O. BOX 47869
OLYMPIA WA 98504-7869

FOLD HERE

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

EXAMINING BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY
Department of Health
1300 Quince ST SE
P.O. BOX 47869
Olympia WA 98504-7869

FOLD HERE

TAPE HERE

Reference

Examining Board of Psychology

Diane Fligstein, Ph.D., Chair
 John Ernst, Ph.D., ABPP, Vice Chair
 Joseph Barber, Ph.D., ABPH
 Shirley Feldman-Summers, Ph.D.,
 Newsletter Editor
 Glen Frese, Ph.D.
 Carlton Glenn, Public Member
 Joanne Ito, Ph.D.
 Mary F. Miller, Ph.D.
 Lisa Richesson, Public Member

Department of Health Staff

Dee Spice, Executive Director
 Janice K. Boden, Program Manager
 Margaret Gilbert, Staff Attorney
 Sharon Strachan, Admin. Assistant
 Billie Jo Ball, Program Representative

Address

Department of Health
 Examining Board of Psychology
 1300 Quince Street S.E.
 P.O. Box 47869
 Olympia, WA 98504-7869

Phone/Fax

360/753-2147 telephone
 360/664-9484 fax

1998 Important Board Dates

July 10-11, 1998 Oral exams
 September 11, 1998 Board meeting
 October 9, 1998 Board meeting
 October 21, 1998 National written examination
 November 13, 1998 Board meeting
 December 11, 1998 Board meeting ♦

Newly Licensed Psychologists

The Washington State Examining Board of Psychology is pleased to announce that the following psychologists were licensed this year to date.

Irene Anita Arden, Ed.D.	Daniel Edward Fry, Psy.D.	Carolyn N. Roll, Ph.D.
Marya Mendelson Barey, Ph. D.	Jeffrey B. Gillman, Ph.D.	Kelly A. Schloredt, Ph.D.
Elisabeth Dunn Bennett, Ph. D.	Vincent Thomas Gollogly, Ph.D.	Izabela Z. Schultz, Ph.D.
Louisa P. Branscomb, Ph.D.	Yumi Hiraga, Ph.D.	Peter M. Selby, Ph.D.
Peter F. Carey, Ph.D.	Christopher Scott Howland, Psy.D.	Thomas S. Seymour, Ph.D.
Mark W. Clark, Psy.D.	Randall D. Hurst, Psy.D.	Ana M. Sierra, Ph.D.
Gregory Dorris, Psy.D.	Alan J. Kent, Ph.D.	Susan L. Simonds, Ph.D.
Carolyn M. Campbell, Psy.D.	Nancy L. Larsen, Ph.D.	Amy P. Summers, Ph.D.
Anthony Paul DuBose, Psy.D.	Linda Ann Mazer, Psy.D.	David L. Terletzky, Psy.D.
Miriam Anne Erickson, Ph.D.	Carrie Ann Morrison, Psy.D.	David C. Waller, Ph.D.
Linda S. Ewald, Ph.D.	John Edwood Pedersen, Ph.D.	Robert E. Smith, Ph.D. ♦



EXAMINING BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
1300 QUINCE ST SE
P.O. BOX 47869
OLYMPIA WA 98504-7869

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Washington State
Department of Printing